



# NEWS RELEASE

## COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

### Seventh District

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **COUNCILMEMBER EMERALD CALLS FOR REDEVELOPMENT REFORMS**

Today, Councilmember Marti Emerald called for the hiring of a redevelopment professional as the City Redevelopment Agency's executive director and the establishment of a City Council committee to formulate a plan to reorganize the way San Diego carries out its redevelopment activities.

For the past five years, the mayor has filled the executive director's post as a temporary measure since the "strong mayor" form of government forced the Mayor off of the Redevelopment Agency Board. Emerald said the Mayor has been gracious in filling the role, but the time has come for the post to be filled by a professional redevelopment expert.

Emerald also pressed for an Ad Hoc committee to bring forward proposals for the reorganization of the Redevelopment Agency, which currently contracts with two non-profit corporations and a City department to conduct programs and activities in the 18 redevelopment project areas citywide.

Emerald noted that over the last seven years, many studies and reports have been completed on proposals to streamline Agency operations which have three duplicated administrative bodies and staffs. "The tax dollars we save through a more efficient organization can be used to increase affordable housing and complete community infrastructure that has been promised for decades," Emerald said.

In the end, the Council unanimously agreed to keep the Mayor in the temporary role for sixty days. Council President Anthony Young announced that he would appoint the Ad Hoc committee this week and thanked Councilmember Emerald for moving the issue forward.

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